

Article

On odd prime labeling of graphs

Maged Zakaria Youssef^{1,2,*} and Zainab Saad Almoreed^{1,3}

¹ Department of Mathematics and Statistics, College of Science, Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University, P.O. BOX 90950 Riyadh 11623, Saudi Arabia.

² Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, Cairo 11566, Egypt.

³ Department of Mathematics, university college of Al-Nairiya, University of Hafr Al-Batin, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

* Correspondence: mزابouelyamin@imamu.edu.sa

Received: 5 May 2020; Accepted: 12 August 2020; Published 20 October 2020.

Abstract: In this paper we give a new variation of the prime labeling. We call a graph G with vertex set $V(G)$ has an odd prime labeling if its vertices can be labeled distinctly from the set $\{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2|V(G)| - 1\}$ such that for every edge xy of $E(G)$ the labels assigned to the vertices of x and y are relatively prime. A graph that admits an odd prime labeling is called an *odd prime graph*. We give some families of odd prime graphs and give some necessary conditions for a graph to be odd prime. Finally, we conjecture that every prime graph is odd prime graph.

Keywords: Prime labeling, k -prime labeling, odd prime labeling.

MSC: 05C78.

1. Introduction

We follow [1,2] and [3] for the definitions and notations in graph theory and number theory respectively. We denote to the greatest common divisor of two positive integers m and n by (m, n) . The notion of prime labeling introduced by Entringer and appeared in [4] by Tout, Dabboucy and Howalla in 1982. A graph G with vertex set $V(G)$ is said to have a prime labeling if there exists a bijective function $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, |V(G)|\}$ such that for every edge $xy \in E(G)$, $f(x)$ and $f(y)$ are relatively prime. A graph G that admits a prime labeling is called a prime graph. The prime labeling of some families of graphs were studied by many authors. Entringer conjectured that all trees have prime labeling. Fu and Huang [5] proved that all complete binary trees are prime. Among the other classes of trees known to have prime labeling are: paths, stars, spiders, olive trees, all trees of order up to 50, palm trees, and banana trees (see [2]).

Seoud and Youssef [6] defined R_n as the maximal prime graph of order n and denoted to the number of edges in R_n by $\rho(n)$. They gave an exact formula for $\rho(n)$ and gave some necessary conditions for a graph to be prime and gave a relation between prime labeling and vertex coloring of graphs. They also conjectured that all unicyclic graphs are prime.

In 2011, Vaidya and Prajapati [7] gave a variation of the definition of prime labeling. They called a graph G of order n is k -prime for some positive integer k if its vertices can be labeled bijectively by the labels $k, k + 1, \dots, k + n - 1$ such that adjacent vertices receive relatively prime labels. For more details about the known results on prime labelings see [2,8–13].

In the following we introduce a new variation of the prime labeling.

Definition 1. A graph G with vertex set $V(G)$ is said to have an odd prime labeling if there exists an injective function $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, |V(G)|\}$ such that for every edge $xy \in E(G)$ $f(x)$ and $f(y)$ are relatively prime. A graph G that admits an odd prime labeling is called an odd prime graph.

We give a generalization of the concept of the prime labeling as follows:

Definition 2. Let k and d be positive integers. A graph G with vertex set $V(G)$ and of order n is said to have a (k, d) -prime labeling if there exists an injective function $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{k, k + d, k + 2d, \dots, k + (n - 1)d\}$ such that for every edge $xy \in E(G)$, $(f(x), f(y)) = 1$. A graph G that admits a (k, d) -prime labeling is called a (k, d) -prime graph.

With this notation, the $(1, 1)$ -prime labeling and the prime labeling coincides; the $(1, 2)$ -prime labeling is the same as odd prime labeling and the $(k, 1)$ -prime labeling is the same as the k -prime labeling. In this paper we deal with the odd prime labeling. We give some necessary conditions for a graph to be odd prime and classify some particular families of graphs according to their prime labeling.

2. Some properties of odd prime graphs

In this section we give some necessary conditions for a graph to be an odd prime.

Theorem 1. (i) Every spanning subgraph of an odd prime graph is odd prime graph.
 (ii) Every graph is an induced subgraph of an odd prime graph.

Proof. (i) Follows directly from the definition.

(ii) Let G be a graph of order $n \geq 2$ and let $1 < p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_{n-1}$ be the first $n - 1$ odd prime numbers. As the number of odd integers which are greater than 1 and less than p_{n-1} is equal to $\frac{p_{n-1} - 3}{2}$ and the number of odd primes less than p_{n-1} is equal to $n - 2$, then the number of composite odd positive integers less than p_{n-1} is equal to $\frac{p_{n-1} - 3}{2} - (n - 2) = \frac{p_{n-1} + 1}{2} - n$. Now label the vertices of G distinctly by $1, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}$. Then add m isolated vertices to G , where $m = \frac{p_{n-1} + 1}{2} - n$. Finally label these isolated vertices distinctly from $\{2k + 1 : 1 < 2k + 1 < p_{n-1}\} \setminus \{1, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}\}$. □

Definition 3. Let M_n be the graph whose vertex set $V(M_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and whose edge set $E(M_n)$ is defined as $v_i v_j \in E(M_n)$ if and only if $(2i - 1, 2j - 1) = 1$, for every $v_i, v_j \in V(M_n)$ and $i < j$. We call M_n , the maximal odd prime graph of order n . We denote the size of M_n by $\gamma(n)$. It is clear that $\gamma(n)$ represents the maximum number of edges in the odd prime graph of order n and any graph of order n is isomorphic to a spanning subgraph of M_n .

Remark 1. One way to obtain the graph M_n is to label the vertices of the complete graph K_n distinctly by the odd integers $1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n - 1$ and then successively delete any edge whose the labels of its end vertices have a common divisor greater than 1. Then we can get: $\gamma(2) = 1, \gamma(3) = 3, \gamma(4) = 6, \gamma(9) = 1$, and $\gamma(6) = 14$. Another way to obtain M_n is from M_{n-1} by adding a new vertex with label $2n - 1$ to the graph M_{n-1} such that this vertex is adjacent to a vertex in M_{n-1} labeled $2i - 1, 1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ if $(2i - 1, 2n - 1) = 1$. Figure 1 shows the maximal prime graph R_8 and the maximal odd prime graph M_8 .

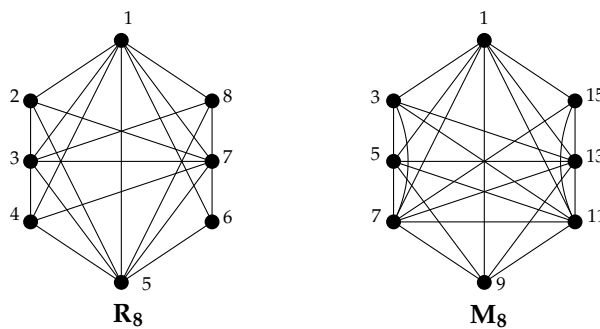


Figure 1. The maximal prime graph R_8 and the maximal odd prime graph M_8 .

For a given positive integer n , let $X_n = \{1 \leq k \leq n : (k, n) = 1\}$. This gives that $\phi(n) = |X_n|$, where $\phi(n)$ is the Euler’s phi function. If n is odd integer greater than 1, we may decompose X_n into two disjoint subsets as $X_n = O_n \cup E_n$, where O_n (resp. E_n) is the set of all odd (resp. even) positive integers through 1 to n which are relatively prime to n . We denote to $|O_n|$ by $\phi_0(n)$.

In the following lemma we show that both O_n and E_n have the same number of elements if n is odd integer greater than 1.

Lemma 1. *If n is odd integer such that $n \geq 3$, then $|O_n| = |E_n| = \frac{\phi(n)}{2}$.*

Proof. Since we have $k \in O_n$ if and only if $n - k \in E_n$, we get the result. □

The following result gives an exact formula for $\gamma(n)$.

Theorem 2. *If $n \geq 2$, then $\gamma(n) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=2}^n \phi(2i - 1)$.*

Proof. From Remark 1 above, we have for $n \geq 3, \gamma(n) = \gamma(n - 1) + \phi_0(2n - 1)$, with $\gamma(2) = \phi_0(3) = 1$. Solving this recurrence relation we get $\gamma(n) = \sum^n \phi_0(2i - 1)$ and the results follows from Lemma 1. □

According to the above theorem we get that all graphs of order not exceeding 7 are odd prime except K_5, K_6 , and K_7 .

Seoud and Youssef [6] showed that $\beta(C_n^2) = \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor, n \geq 4$. We shall show that if an edge deleted from $C_n^2, n \geq 5,$, then the vertex independence number of the resulting graph is the same as C_n^2 except the case when $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$. In the following theorems we study some more properties for the graph M_n .

Theorem 3. *For $n \geq 2, \beta(M_n) = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \rfloor$, where $\beta(G)$ is the vertex independence number of a graph G .*

Proof. If $2 \leq n \leq 4$, we have $M_n = K_n$ and the results follow. For $n \geq 5$, consider the graph $G = C_n^2 - e$ with vertex set $V(G) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and edge set $E(G) = \{v_i v_j : i - j \equiv \pm 1(\text{mod}n)\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+2} : 1 \leq i \leq n - 2\} \cup \{v_n v_2\}$. We claim that G is odd prime graph with $\beta(G) = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \rfloor$. Define a function $f : \Gamma(G) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n - 1\}$ in three cases according to n modulo 3 as follows:

If $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_{3i-2}) &= 3(2i - 1), & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{3}, \\ f(v_{3i-1}) &= 3(2i - 1) - 2, & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{3}, \\ f(v_{3i}) &= 3(2i - 1) + 2, & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

If $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_{3i-2}) &= 3(2i - 1), & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n-1}{3}, \\ f(v_{3i-1}) &= 3(2i - 1) - 2, & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n-1}{3}, \\ f(v_{3i}) &= 3(2i - 1) + 2, & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n-1}{3}, \\ f(v_{3n}) &= 2n - 1. \end{aligned}$$

If $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_{3i-2}) &= 3(2i - 1), & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n+1}{3}, \\ f(v_{3i-1}) &= 3(2i - 1) - 2, & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n+1}{3}, \\ f(v_{3i}) &= 3(2i - 1) + 2, & 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n-2}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

For $1 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f(v_{3i-2}), f(v_{3i-1})) &= (3(2i-1), 3(2i-1) - 2) = 1, \\ (f(v_{3i-1}), f(v_{3i})) &= (3(2i-1) - 2, 3(2i-1) + 2) = 1, \\ (f(v_{3i-2}), f(v_{3i})) &= (3(2i-1), 3(2i-1) + 2) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Checking the relative primality of the other vertices, showing that the graph G is odd prime with. For $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$, the set $\{v_1, v_4, v_7, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$ is the maximal independent set in the graph G . For the other cases we have $\beta(G) = \beta(C_n^2)$. That is in all cases we have $\beta(G) = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \rfloor$.

Now, as G is odd prime, then

$$\lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \rfloor = \beta(G) \geq \beta(M_n) \tag{1}$$

For the other side of the inequality, since the set $\{v_i \in V(M_n) : 1 \leq i \leq n, 3 \mid i\}$ is an independent set of vertices in M_n , then

$$\beta(M_n) = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \rfloor \tag{2}$$

From (1) and (2), the result follows. □

The proof of the following theorem is similar to a proof given by Youssef [15], which concerns the prime labeling.

Theorem 4. For $n \leq 2$,

- (i) $\omega(M_n) = \pi(2n - 1)$, where $\omega(G)$ is the vertex clique number of a graph G
- (ii) $\chi(M_n) = \pi(2n - 1)$, where $\chi(G)$ is the chromatic number of a graph G .

Proof. (i) Let $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_{\pi(2n-1)}$ be the list of all odd prime numbers $\leq 2n - 1$, then the induced subgraph of M_n generated by $U = \{v_i \in V(M_n) : i = 1 \text{ or } i = p_j \text{ for some } 1 \leq j \leq \pi(2n - 1)\}$ is the graph $K_{\pi(2n-1)}$, hence $\omega(M_n) \geq \pi(2n - 1)$. Conversely, for $1 \leq i \leq \pi(2n - 1) - 1$ define, $V_i = \{v_j \in V(M_n) : p_i \mid j\}$, then $V(G) = \{v_1\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\pi(2n-1)-1} V_i = \{v_1\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\pi(2n-1)-1} \left(V \setminus \bigcup_{j<i} V_j \right)$ is a partition of $V(M_n)$ into independent sets and let $K_{\omega(M_n)}$ be a maximal complete subgraph of M_n , then for $1 \leq i \leq \pi(2n - 1) - 1$, $\left| V(K_{\omega(M_n)}) \cap \left(V \setminus \bigcup_{j<i} V_j \right) \right| \leq 1$, hence $|V(K_{\omega(M_n)})| \leq \pi(2n - 1)$, that is $\omega(M_n) \leq \pi(2n - 1)$.

- (ii) An argument similar to that in part (i) shows that $\chi(M_n) = \pi(2n - 1)$. □

The following corollary due to Theorem 3 and Theorem 4 gives some necessary conditions for a graph to be an odd prime graph.

Corollary 1. If G is an odd prime graph of order n , then

- (i) $|E(G)| \leq \gamma(n)$,
- (ii) $\beta(G) \geq \lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \rfloor$,
- (iii) $\omega(G) \leq \pi(2n - 1)$,
- (iv) $\chi(G) \leq \pi(2n - 1)$.

Proof. If G is an odd prime graph of order n , then G is a spanning subgraph of M_n . That is $G \subseteq M_n$ and the results follow. □

3. Odd prime labeling of some special graphs

In this section we deal with the odd prime labeling of some special graphs. The cycle C_n is odd prime for every $n \geq 3$, while the following result concerns K_n .

Theorem 5. For $n \geq 2$, K_n is odd prime for every $n \leq 4$.

Proof. If $2 \leq n \leq 4$, we label the vertices of K_n by the numbers $1, 3, \dots, 2n - 1$. Conversely, if $n \geq 5$, we have $\beta(K_n) = 1 < \left\lfloor \frac{n+1}{3} \right\rfloor$ and the graph is not odd prime by Corollary 1(ii). \square

Although the wheel W_n is prime if and only if n is even, we prove that all wheels are odd prime.

Theorem 6. W_n is odd prime for every $n \geq 3$.

Proof. Let $V(W_n) = \{u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$, where u_0 is the center vertex and let $E(W_n) = \{u_0u_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{u_iu_j : j - i \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}\}$.

Let $f : V(W_n) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n + 1\}$. We have two cases to consider:

Case 1: $n \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

Define f as follows: $f(u_i) = 2i + 1, 0 \leq i \leq n$. As any integer is relatively prime to 1 and any two consecutive odd integers are relatively prime, we have to check only the relativity prime of $f(u_1)$ and $f(u_n)$. We have $(f(u_1), f(u_n)) = (3, 2n + 1) = 1$, since $2n + 1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$. Hence f is an odd prime labeling of W_n in this case.

Case 2: $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$.

Define f as $f(u_i) = 2i + 1, 0 \leq i \leq n - 2, f(u_{n-1}) = 2n + 1,$ and $f(u_n) = 2n - 1$. We can easily check again that f is an odd prime labeling of W_n in that case. \square

Theorem 7. H_n is odd prime for every $n \geq 3$.

Proof. Let $V(H_n) = \{u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\} \cup \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$, where u_0 is the center vertex and let

$$E(H_n) = \{u_0u_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{u_iu_j : i - j \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}\} \cup \{u_iv_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\} .$$

Let $f : V(H_n) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 4n + 1\}$. We have two cases to consider:

Case 1: $n \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. Define f as follows

$$\begin{aligned} f(u_0) &= 1, \\ f(u_i) &= 4i - 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \\ f(v_i) &= 4j + 1, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

As any integer is relatively prime to 1 and any two consecutive odd integers are relatively prime. Also $(f(u_i), f(u_{i+1})) = 1, 1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ and $(f(u_1), f(u_n)) = (3, 4n - 1) = 1$, since $4n - 1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$. Hence f is an odd prime labeling of H_n in this case.

Case 2: $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. Define f as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f(u_1) &= 1, \\ f(u_i) &= 4i - 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, \quad f(u_n) = 4n + 1, \\ f(v_j) &= 4j + 1, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n - 1, \quad f(v_n) = 4n - 1. \end{aligned}$$

As in Case 1, it remains to check $(f(u_1), f(u_n))$ and $(f(u_{n-1}), f(u_n))$. Now

$$(f(u_1), f(u_n)) = (3, 4n + 1) = 1, \text{ since } 4n + 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{3},$$

and

$$(f(u_{n-1}), f(u_n)) = (4n - 5, 4n + 1) = (4n - 5, 6) = 1, \text{ since } 4n - 5 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}.$$

Thus f is an odd prime labeling of H_n in that case also. □

It is clear that $K_{1,n}, n \geq 1$ is odd prime for every $n \geq 1$ and Bertrand’s Postulate [3] guarantees the odd prime labeling of $K_{2,n}, n \geq 2$. Although the smallest values of m and n for which $K_{m,n}$ is not prime is $(m, n) = (3, 3)$, however, we show in the following results that the smallest values of m and n for which $K_{m,n}$ is not odd prime is $(m, n) = (7, 7)$. The proof of the result is similar to the one given by Fu and Huang [5] and therefore we omit it.

Theorem 8. $K_{m,n}, 3 \leq m \leq n$ is odd prime if and only if $m \leq \pi(2m + 2n - 1) - \pi\left(\frac{2m + 2n - 1}{3}\right) + 1$.

According to the above theorem and the odd prime labeling of $K_{1,n}$ and $K_{2,n}$, we can find that for $2 \leq m + n \leq 20$, $K_{m,n}$ is odd prime if and only if $(m, n) \neq (7, 7), (8, 9), (8, 10), (9, 9), (9, 10), (8, 12), (9, 11)$, and $(10, 10)$. Figure 2 shows the odd prime labeling of the complete bipartite graph $K_{8,8}$

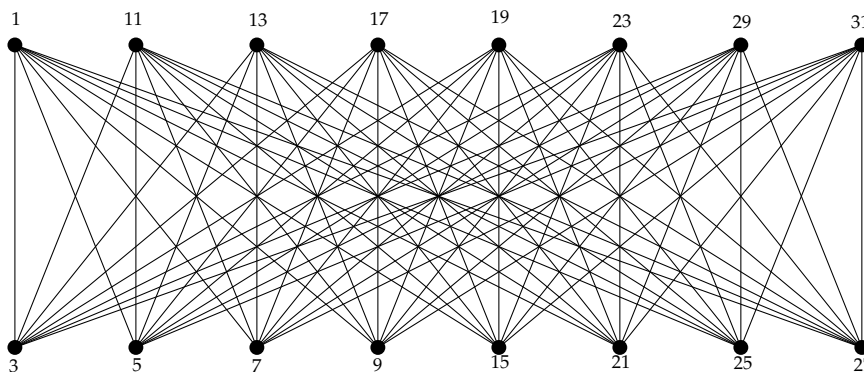


Figure 2. The odd prime labeling of the complete bipartite graph $K_{8,8}$

In 2002, Vilfred *et al.*, [13] conjectured that all ladders L_n are prime. This conjectured was proved in 2015 by Dean [8], however in the next theorem we prove that all ladders have odd prime labeling.

Theorem 9. L_n is odd prime for every $n \geq 1$.

Proof. Let $V(L_n) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\} \cup \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$, and $E(L_n) = \{u_i u_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq n - 1\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq n - 1\} \cup \{u_i v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Let $f : V(L_n) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 4n - 1\}$ be defined as

$$f(u_i) = 4i - 3, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \quad f(v_j) = 4j - 1, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} (f(u_i), f(u_{i+1})) &= (4i - 3, 4i + 1) = (4i - 3, 4) = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, \\ (f(v_i), f(v_{i+1})) &= (4i - 1, 4i + 3) = (4i - 1, 4) = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, \\ (f(u_i), f(v_i)) &= (4i - 3, 4i - 1) = (4i - 3, 2) = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence f is an odd prime labeling. □

Theorem 10. $T_2(n)$ is odd prime for every $n \geq 2$.

Proof. Let the vertices of the i th level of $T_2(n)$ be $v_{i,1}, v_{i,2}, v_{i,3} \dots, v_{i,2^i}$ where $1 \leq i \leq n$. Define a labeling function $f(V(T_2(n))) \rightarrow \{1, 3, \dots, 2^{n+1} - 3\}$ as follows:

$$f(v_{p,q}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p = n, q = 2^{n-1}, \\ (2q - 1)^{n+1-p} + 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To prove that this function is an odd labeling, we note that each vertex in a level p , say the vertex $v_{p,q}$, is adjacent to the two vertices $v_{p+1,2q-1}$ and $v_{p+1,2q}$ where $1 \leq p < n$. So we have to show that $(f(v_{p,q}), f(v_{p+1,2q-1})) = 1$ and $(f(v_{p,q}), f(v_{p+1,2q})) = 1$. For the first, we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((f(v_{p,q}), f(v_{p+1,2q-1}))) &= ((2q - 1)2^{n+1-p} + 1, (4q - 3)2^{n-p} + 1) \\ &= ((2q - 1)2^{n+1-p} - (4q - 3)2^{n-p}, (4q - 3)2^{n-p} + 1) \\ &= (2^{n-p}((2q - 1)2 - (4q - 3)), (4q - 3)2^{n-p} + 1) \\ &= (2^{n-p}, (4q - 3)2^{n-p} + 1) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The second one can be treated similarly. □

4. Odd prime labeling of disjoint union of graphs

The graph $C_m \cup C_n$ is prime if and only if m or n is odd. However, we prove in the following theorem that the disjoint union of any two cycles is odd prime.

Theorem 11. $C_m \cup C_n$ is odd prime for all $m, n \geq 3$.

Proof. If $m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, we label the vertices of C_m and C_n successively by the labels $3, 5, 7, \dots, 2m + 1$ and $1, 2m + 3, 2m + 5, \dots, 2m + 2n - 1$ respectively. Otherwise, if $m \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, we label the vertices the vertices of C_m and C_n successively by the labels $3, 5, 7, \dots, 2m - 1, 2m + 3$ and $1, 2m + 1, 2m + 5, 2m + 7, \dots, 2m + 2n - 1$ respectively. The reader can check easily that the graph is odd prime in the two cases. □

Theorem 12. $K_m \cup K_m, m \leq n$ is odd prime if and only if $m + n \leq 7$.

Proof. Necessity, let $m + n > 7$. Since $\lfloor \frac{m+n+1}{3} \rfloor \geq 3 > \beta(K_m \cup K_m) = 2$, then $K_m \cup K_m$ is not odd prime. Sufficiency, let $m + n \leq 7, m \leq n$ and $V(K_m \cup K_m) = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\} \cup \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$. Define $f : V(K_m \cup K_m) \rightarrow \{1, 3, \dots, 2m + 2n - 1\}$ as

$$f(x_i) = 2i + 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad f(y_j) = 2m + 2j + 1, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n - 1, \text{ and } f(y_n) = 1.$$

Since all positive odd integers not exceeding 13 except the integer 3 or 9 are pairwise relatively prime and since we put the label 3 in only one component as $m \leq 3$, this guarantees that f is an odd prime labeling of $K_m \cup K_m$. This completes the proof. □

Theorem 13. If G is odd prime graph of order n , then $G \cup P_m$ is odd prime.

Proof. Let $V(P_m) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$ and f be an odd prime labeling for the graph G . Define a labeling $g : V(G \cup P_m) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n + 2m - 1\}$ as follows: $g(v) = f(v)$ for every vertex $v \in V(G)$ and $g(u_i) = 2n + 2i - 1, 1 \leq i \leq m$. As every two consecutive odd integers are relatively prime, the result follows. □

The following result shows that the disjoint union of any number of paths is odd prime.

Corollary 2. $\bigcup_{i=1}^n P_{m_i}$ is odd prime.

Theorem 14. If G is odd prime graph of order n , then $G \cup K_3$ is odd prime.

Proof. Let $V(K_3) = \{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$ and f be an odd prime labeling for the graph G . Define a labeling $g : V(G \cup P_m) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n + 2m - 1\}$ as follows: $g(v) = f(v)$ for every vertex $v \in V(G)$ and $g(u_i) = 2n + 2i - 1, 1 \leq i \leq 3$. As every three consecutive odd integers are pairwise relatively prime, the result follows. □

Corollary 3. mK_3 is odd prime for every $m \geq 1$.

The above theorem can be generalized by substitute K_3 by the graph C_{2m+1} for every positive integer m .

Theorem 15. For $m \geq 1$ and $n \geq 2$, mK_n is odd prime if and only if ($m \geq 1$ and $n = 2$ or 3) or ($m = 1$ and $n = 4$).

Proof. Necessity, if ($m \geq 1$ and $n \geq 5$) or ($m \geq 2$ and $n = 4$), we have $\left\lfloor \frac{mn+1}{3} \right\rfloor > m = \beta(mK_n)$. Then the graph is not odd prime by Corollary 1(ii). Sufficiency comes by Corollary 2 and Corollary 3 \square

Comment

In this paper, we showed that some families of graphs like K_4 , W_{2n+1} , and $C_{2m+1} \cup C_{2n+1}$ are odd prime, although they are not prime. Thus there are odd prime graphs that are not prime. You might have already asked whether the converse is true. That is there are prime graphs that are not prime? We expect that the answer is no and formalize this in the following conjecture.

Conjecture 1. Every prime graph is odd prime graph.

Author Contributions: All authors contributed equally to the writing of this paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest: "The authors declare no conflict of interest."

References

- [1] Bondy, J. A., & Murty, U. S. (2000). *Graph theory*. First Edition, Springer.
- [2] Gallian, J. A. (2018). A dynamic survey of graph labeling (2018). *The Electronic Journal of Combinatorics*, #DS6, 21st Edition, 1-502.
- [3] Niven, I., Zuckerman, H. S., & Montgomery, H. L. (1991). *An introduction to the theory of numbers*. John Wiley & Sons.
- [4] Tout, R., Dabboucy, A. N., & Howalla, K. (1982). Prime labeling of graphs. *National Academy Science Letters-India*, 5(11), 365-368.
- [5] Fu, H. L., & Huang, K. C. (1994). On prime labellings. *Discrete Mathematics*, 127(1-3), 181-186.
- [6] Seoud, M. A., & Youssef, M. Z. (1999). On prime labeling of graphs. *Congressus Numerantium*, 203-215.
- [7] Vaidya, S. K., & Prajapati, U. M. (2011). Some results on prime and k-prime labeling. *Journal of Mathematics Research*, 3(1), 66-75.
- [8] Dean, N. (2017). Proof of the Prime Ladder Conjecture. *Integers*, 17, A40, 1-9.
- [9] Deretsky, T., Lee, S. M., & Mitchem, J. (1991). *On vertex prime labelings of graphs, Graph Theory, Combinatorics, and Applications, Vol. 1* (Kalamazoo, MI, 1988), 359-369. Wiley-Intersci. Publ., Wiley, New York.
- [10] Lee, S. M., Wui, I., & Yeh, J. (1988). On the amalgamation of prime graphs. *Bulletin of the Malaysian Mathematical Sciences Society*, (Second Series), 11, 59-67.
- [11] Patel, S. K., & Vasava, J. (2018). On prime labeling of some union graphs. *Kragujevac Journal of Mathematics*, 42(3), 441-452.
- [12] Seoud, M. A., El Sonbaty, A., & Mahran, A. E. A. (2012). On prime graphs. *Ars Combinatoria*, 104, 241-260.
- [13] Vilfred, V., Somasundaram, S., & Nicholas, T. Classes of prime labeled graphs. *International J. Management and Systems*.
- [14] Youssef, M. Z., & Elsakhawi, E. A. (2007). Some properties of prime graphs. *Ars Combinatoria*, 84, 129-140.
- [15] Youssef, M. Z. (2000). *On graceful, harmonious and prime labelings of graphs* (Doctoral dissertation, Ph. D. thesis, Department of Mathematics, Ain Shams University).
- [16] Michael, A. G., & Youssef, M. Z. (2014). On Prime Labeled Self-Complementary Graphs. *Journal of Discrete Mathematical Sciences and Cryptography*, 17(3), 239-256.



© 2020 by the authors; licensee PSRP, Lahore, Pakistan. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).